



# Severe Weather Possible on Wednesday

December 22, 2015 Briefing



## National Weather Service

Chicago/Romeoville, IL

<http://www.weather.gov/chicago>



[facebook.com/NWSChicago](https://www.facebook.com/NWSChicago)



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Created: 12/22/2015 4:55 PM Central



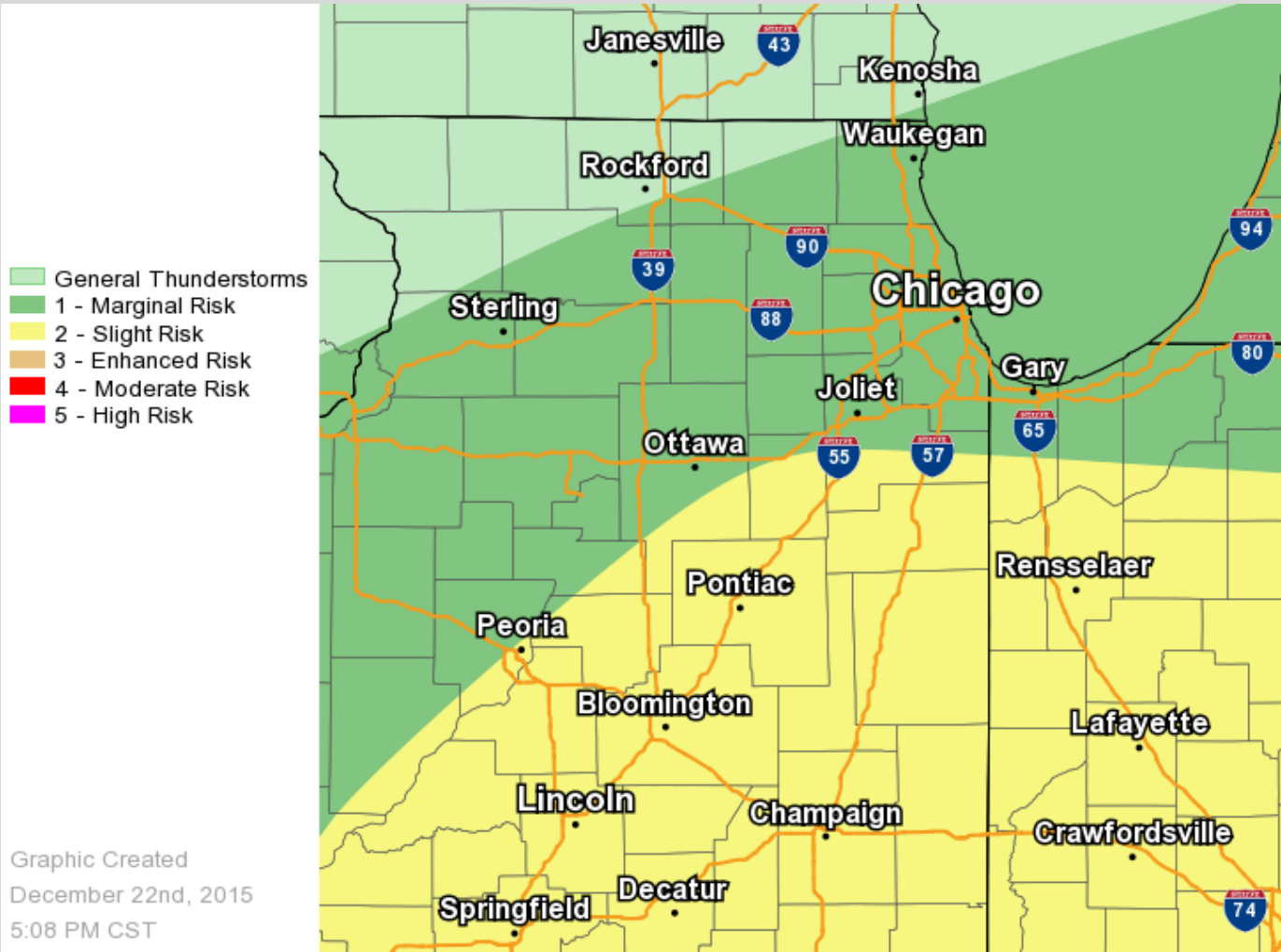
# Impacts/Hazards



What	Where	Timing	Impacts
<b>Severe Thunderstorms</b> Damaging Winds & Isolated Tornadoes	Best South of I-80	Best Window 2 PM – 10 PM	Outside activity interrupted, Structural damage possible
<b>Flooding</b> Minor	Northern IL & Northwest IN	Ongoing into next week	Minor flooding on area rivers & streams



# Tomorrow's Severe Weather Outlook



[Understanding SPC Severe Thunderstorm Risk Categories](http://www.spc.noaa.gov/new/images/Outlook-category-descriptions.png)

<http://www.spc.noaa.gov/new/images/Outlook-category-descriptions.png>



# Environmental Ingredients



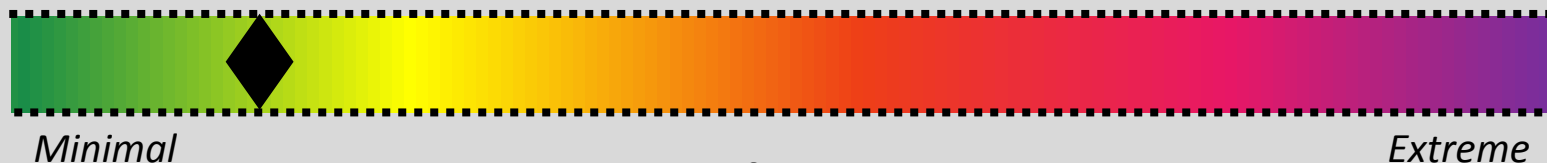
## Deep Layer Wind Shear



## Low Level Wind Shear



## Instability



## Moisture



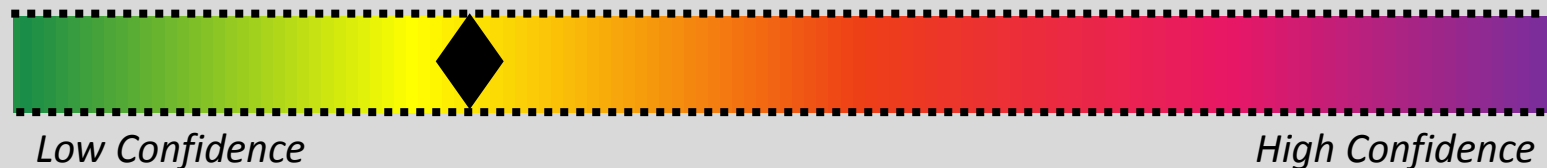


# Threat Confidence

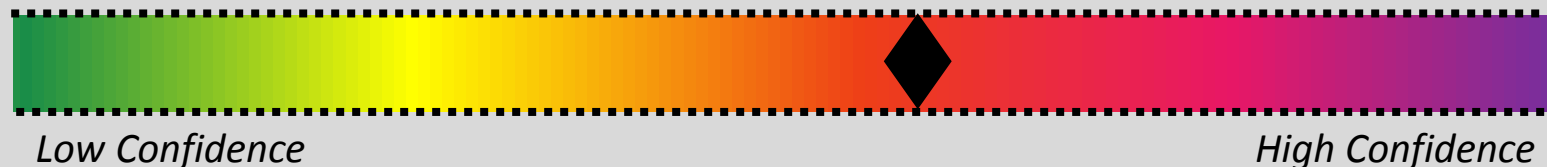
## Significant Tornadoes (EF2 and Greater)



## Tornadoes



## Damaging Winds ( $\geq 58$ MPH)



## Large Hail ( $\geq 1$ inch diameter)







# Severe Threat Timeline



9AM



2 PM

**SEVERE**



6 PM

**SEVERE**

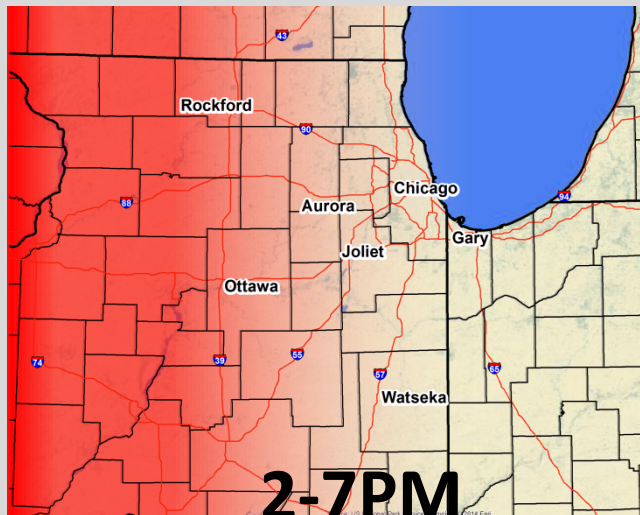


10PM

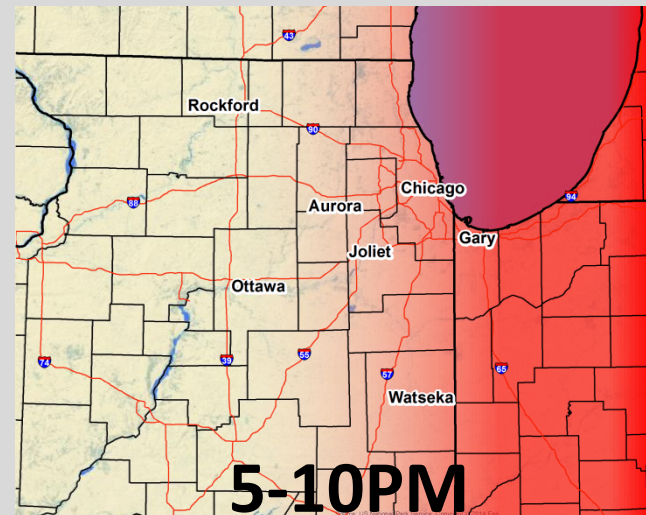
12AM

**Scattered  
Storms**

**Severe Storm Potential**



**2-7PM**



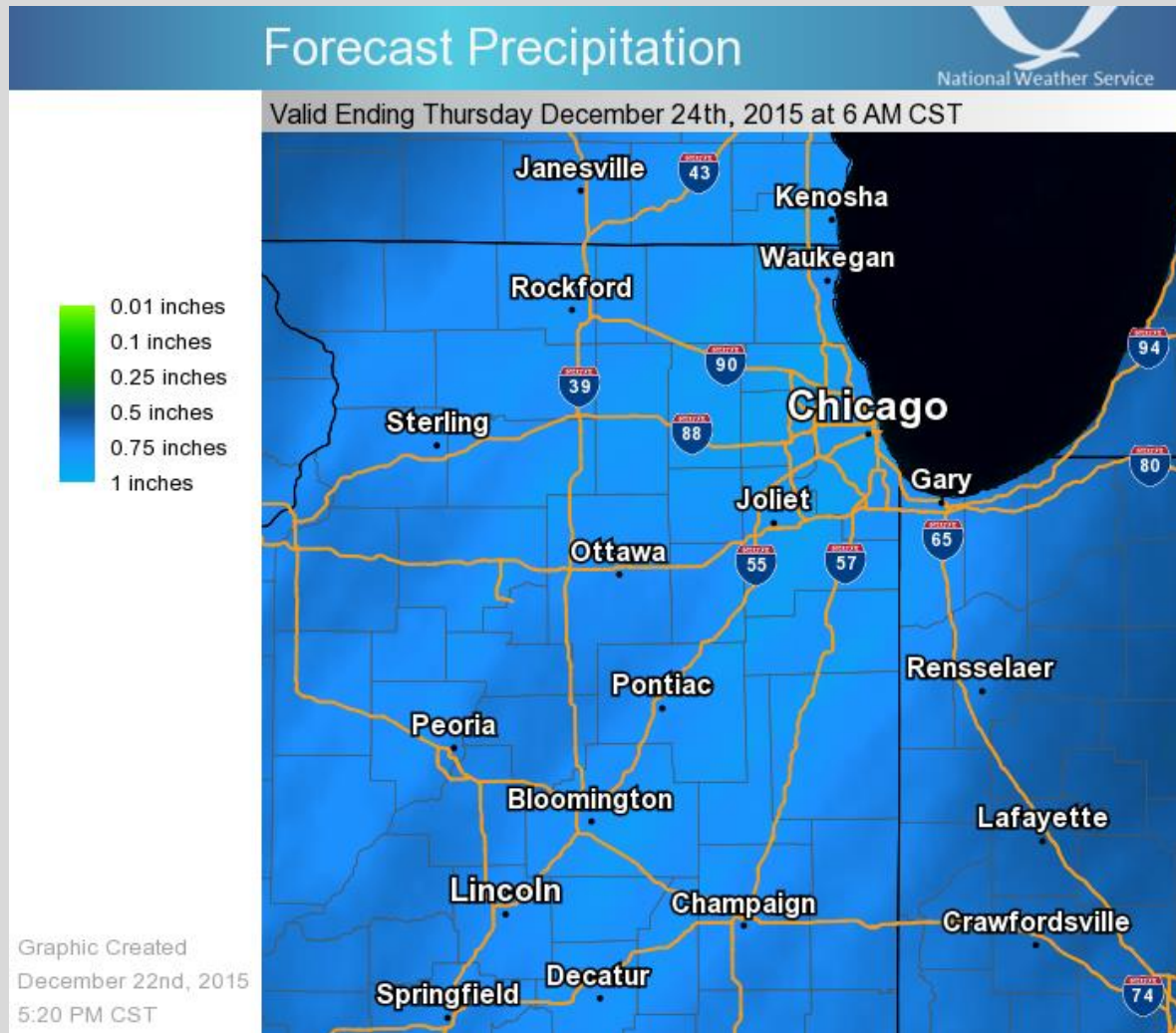
**5-10PM**

**Greater  
Threat**

**Lesser  
Threat**



# Forecast Rainfall



**Up to an inch of rain is expected through Thursday.  
Locally heavier amounts are possible with thunderstorms.**



# Additional Thoughts



- **Low confidence but potentially high impact event**
- **Out-of-Season Severe Weather Event**
  - *Holiday Plans & Travel*
- **Would not be surprised to see a shift north in the SPC outlooks tomorrow**
- **Remind family and friends to have a way to receive watches & warnings**
  - *Share/retweet our information on Social Media!*





# Tornado Safety



- **Have a preparedness plan.** Know your tornado shelter!
- **Home:** Basement and under the stairwell or heavy piece of furniture. If *no basement*, then an interior closet, hall, or bathroom on lowest floor.
- **Schools, hospitals, and office buildings:** Small interior rooms or interior halls on lowest floor, and avoid long corridors with windows and large open areas with free span roofs such as gymnasiums.
- **Steel and concrete high rise buildings:** Interior halls, bathrooms or closets and stay away from windows.
- **Shopping centers:** Bathrooms and small interior spaces and avoid large open areas and glass.
- **Abandon mobile homes and vehicles for a nearby reinforced building. Lie flat in a ditch as a last resort.**
- **DO NOT seek shelter under an overpass or attempt to outrun a tornado in your vehicle!**





# Severe Thunderstorm Safety



- **Take Severe Thunderstorm Warnings seriously** as they pose threats to life and property.
- June 30<sup>th</sup>, 2014 was an example why, with destructive winds and brief tornadoes across northern IL & IN.
- Go into a sturdy shelter and stay away from windows
- Have a means to hear additional warning info

## Destructive Winds



Lee County

## Giant Hail



Minooka, IL 6/10/15

**Outdoor large venues can be particularly vulnerable to severe storms**





# Lightning Safety



*"When Thunder Roars, Go Indoors!"*

- ⚡ **64% of LIGHTNING FATALITIES** happen during outdoor activities, namely boating, swimming & other sports!
- ⚡ If you hear **THUNDER**, lightning is close enough to strike you!
- ⚡ **SEEK SHELTER** indoors when storms approach; there is **NO** safe spot outdoors during a thunderstorm!
- ⚡ A closed, hard top metal vehicle **IS** safe in a storm!



# Additional Information



## [Storm Prediction Center Outlooks](http://www.spc.noaa.gov/products/outlook/)

<http://www.spc.noaa.gov/products/outlook/>

## [Local Hazardous Weather Outlook](http://forecast.weather.gov/product.php?site=NWS&issuedby=LOT&product=HWO)

<http://forecast.weather.gov/product.php?site=NWS&issuedby=LOT&product=HWO>

## [Graphical Hazardous Weather Outlook](http://www.weather.gov/lot/ehwo)

<http://www.weather.gov/lot/ehwo>

## [Winter Severe Weather in the NWS Chicago Area](http://www.weather.gov/media/lot/severe/WinterSevereWeather.pdf)

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